



County of Union, Illinois  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
309 W. Market—Room 115  
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Rollie Hawk, CIO  
(618) 925-2470  
cio@unioncountyl.gov  
@unioncountycio

November 27, 2017

[sent via email]

Tyler Byars

tylerbyars98@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Byars:

Please consider this our response to your attached Freedom of Information Act request, received via email on November 9, 2017 and summarized below:

*Could you please send me the number of:*

- 1. Summons sent*
- 2. Juror no-show*
- 3. Returned - Not found*
- 4. Juror excused*
- 5. Deferred*
- 6. Jurors not to report*
- 7. Reported for service*
- 8. VOIR DIRE*
- 9. Not Utilized*

Please see the attached letter from Union County Circuit Clerk Tiffany Busby explaining the stance of that office regarding your request. As such, the County has neither possession nor custody of any records responsive to your request.

We consider your request completed. If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Rollie Hawk, Chief Information Officer

Enclosure

Cc: Tyler R. Edmonds, State's Attorney  
Tiffany Busby, Circuit Clerk

**From:** Tyler Byars [mailto:tylerbyars98@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, November 09, 2017 12:27 PM

**To:** undisclosed-recipients:

**Subject:** Jury summons

Hello! My name is Tyler and I am currently working with Illinois Lawsuit Abuse watch to gather data on jury summons for every county in the state of Illinois. This is not in relation to your counties practices in particular. We are simply trying to establish a baseline so we can compare different counties to each other.

Could you please send me the number of:

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I need the individual data for every year from 2008 through your current numbers for 2017.

If you have any questions, feel free to reply to this email or give me a call at [618-308-7706](tel:618-308-7706). Thank you for your time and I hope you have a great day!

Tyler Byars

OFFICE OF  
**TIFFANY BUSBY**  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF UNION COUNTY  
P.O. BOX 450  
JONESBORO, ILLINOIS 62952

*Theresa Maze, Office Manager*  
Telephone: 618-833-5913  
Facsimile: 618-833-5223

E-mail: [unionfirstcircuitclk@hotmail.com](mailto:unionfirstcircuitclk@hotmail.com)  
[unioncountycircuitclerk@gmail.com](mailto:unioncountycircuitclerk@gmail.com)

11/17/2017

Dear Mr. Tyler Byars,

I am in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act dated November 9, 2017. Please be advised that your request for information is **denied**.

Both the Illinois courts and the Illinois Attorney General have determined that the Freedom of Information Act is not applicable to the judicial system. The Clerk of the Circuit Court is a "non-judicial officer of the judiciary" and as such is a member of the Judicial Branch of the State Government, and therefore, exempt from the requirements of the Act. See *Copley Press, Inc. v. Administrative Office of Courts*, 271 Ill.App.3d 548, 553; 641 N.E.2d 324, 327-28 (2d Dist. 1995); 1999 Ill. Atty. Gen. Op. 005 and 2007 Ill. Atty. Gen. Op. 002).

However, all court files are public records, and, unless impounded or sealed under state law or by court order, such files are available for public inspection. Therefore, you are welcome to view all court files not sealed or impounded. Files may be viewed any time during my office hours which are from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Copies are \$2.00 for the first page, \$.50 per page for the next 19 pages, and \$.25 per page for each thereafter.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Busby  
Clerk of the Circuit Court